

**DECISION UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY ON AN APPLICATION  
BY SKYCITY AUCKLAND LIMITED FOR APPROVAL OF  
CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN CHANGES, AND  
BY SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED APPROVAL OF NEW FLOOR PLANS,  
FOR THE AUCKLAND CASINO**

Date of Decision: 21 February 2019

1. On 19 February 2019:
  - (a) SKYCITY Auckland Limited (“**SCAL**”) applied, pursuant to conditions 6 and 7 of its venue licence, for approval of construction and design changes to level 2 of the casino; and
  - (b) SKYCITY Casino Management Limited (“**SCML**”) applied, pursuant to condition 11 of its operator’s licence for the Auckland casino, for approval of three new floor plans, 2019 L2 002 Phase 1, 2019 L2 002 Phase 2, and 2019 L2 002 Final.

2. Conditions 6 and 7 SCAL’s venue licence provide as follows:

6. The Licence Holder must obtain the approval of the Commission prior to:
  - (a) construction or design changes to Levels 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the casino venue, including the Gambling Area but excluding the SKYCITY Theatre and foyer area, restaurant and bar areas outside the Gambling Area, hotel rooms and the back of house areas used by staff (unless construction or design changes to any of these excluded areas may impact on matters set out in condition 7 in which case prior approval must be sought);
  - (b) the construction or relocation outside the Gambling Area and within the Casino Venue of bank facilities available to the public excluding ATMs, EFTPOS and like devices;
  - (c) the addition or alteration of signage relating to the casino business on any building, road or structure within the block of land bounded by Hobson Street, Wellesley Street West, Federal Street and Victoria Street West, including the Casino Venue, Sky Tower, car park, bus terminal and walkways between the casino and the Sky Tower and the convention centre.

The process by which the Licence Holder may obtain approval for construction or design changes to Levels 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the casino venue, including the Gambling Area (paragraph (a) above) is set out in condition 7. The Commission will determine any application for approval under 6(b). The Executive Director may approve the addition or alteration of signage relating to the casino business on any building, road or structure within the casino block (paragraph (c) above) if he/she is satisfied the proposed changes will have no potentially adverse effects. If he/she is not so satisfied, the proposed changes must be referred to the Commission for a decision on approval.

7. The Licence Holder must notify the Executive Director of any proposed changes to the construction or design of Levels 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the casino venue, including the Gambling Area but excluding SKYCITY Theatre and foyer area, restaurant and bar areas outside the Gambling Area, hotel rooms and the back of

house areas used by staff. Notification must be accompanied by relevant drawings and an assessment of any impacts the alterations may have on:

- (a) the integrity and fairness of games;
- (b) the effectiveness of security and surveillance;
- (c) harm prevention, harm minimisation and responsible gambling;
- (d) potential access to the Gambling Area by persons under 20 years of age; and
- (e) compliance by any person with the Act, including section 11.

The Executive Director may approve the proposed changes to the construction or design if he or she is satisfied that there are no adverse impacts in relation to the matters specified in (a)-(e) above. If the Executive Director is not satisfied, he or she will refer the proposal to the Commission for determination.

3. Condition 11 of SCML's operator's licence for the Auckland casino provides as follows:

The Licence Holder shall operate in accordance with approved floor layouts showing the position of gaming tables and gaming machines. The Licence Holder shall obtain approval for new floor plans prior to relocating or installing tables or machines in positions not specified in approved floor layouts. When applying, the Licence Holder must submit fresh plans showing the floor layout for the Gambling Area and details of the proposed CCTV layout for consideration. Any change must comply with the Surveillance Standard. The Executive Director and a single Gambling Commissioner may approve the new floor plans if they are satisfied that the floor layout has no potentially adverse effects. If they are not so satisfied, the proposed floor plan must be referred to the Commission for a decision on approval.

*Submissions*

4. SCAL submitted as follows:

**Construction and design changes**

- (a) In decisions GC23/18 and GC01/19, the Commission approved construction and design changes to the decks on level 2 of the Auckland casino. As a consequence of these changes, it wants to make changes to the Deli dining area and the Premier Rewards desk on the MGF, as follows:

*Premier Rewards and Coat Check*

- (i) It wants to remove the current Premier Rewards desk and use the vacated area for EGMs displaced by the works being carried out on the decks.
- (ii) The Premier Rewards desk has already been relocated to the area previously used by Security and Coat Check, which has an existing counter. It wants to extend this area by removing the existing counter and installing a larger one.

- (iii) As a result of the Coat Check area being removed from the MGF, it wants to install a hatch in the wall outside of the Gambling Area, adjacent to the lifts. Patrons will be able to check their coats and bags before they enter into the Gambling Area.

*Deli area*

- (iv) It wants to reduce the existing dining area by repositioning the half height partition wall back into the current dining area. It then wants to use this space for EGMs.
- (v) It also wants to remove two half height bar leaners from the dining area.
- (vi) The changes will have no adverse effect on the matters set out in condition 7.
- (vii) The arrangements have been reviewed by its Surveillance and Host Responsibility teams.

**Floor plans**

- (b) Subject to approval of the construction and design changes and pursuant to condition 11, the floor plans submitted reflect the proposed EGM layout while construction of the decks takes place and while the abovementioned construction and design changes take place.
- (c) It is submitting three plans for approval, with the first two plans showing the layout of the EGMs during construction, and the final plan depicting Level 2 once work is complete. The changes involved for each of the three plans are as follows:

*Plan 2019 L2 002 Phase 1*

- (i) Implementation of proposed plan in stages between 25 February and 22 March 2019 (or following receipt of approval from the Gambling Commission):
- Remove 8 FATGs and install 6 EGMs (25 February);
  - Remove 4 EGMs and move 6 EGMs south (4 March);
  - Remove 24 FATGs and 15 EGMs and temporarily relocate 18 EGMs along the hoarding line (7-8 March);
  - Install 9 EGMs in the old Premier Rewards area near the Deli (11 March);
  - Install 6 EGMs on the Theatre End smoking terrace (21 March).

*Plan 2019 L2 002 Phase 2*

(ii) Implementation of proposed plan in stages between 25 March and 22 April 2019:

- Remove 18 temporary EGMs and install 22 EGMs (26 March);
- Remove 4 EGMs and install 14 EGMs by the southern end of the Deli (1 April);
- Remove 7 temporary EGMs and install 38 EGMs by the northern end of the Deli (3 April).

*Plan 2019 L2 002 Final*

(iii) Implementation of proposed plan in stages between 6 and 10 May 2019:

- Install 12 EGMs on the smoking balcony beside current Deli balcony (6 May);
- Install 12 EGMs on the smoking balcony at the northern end of the Deli (10 May);
- Remove 22 EGMs and install 16 FATGs (6-10 May).

(d) At all times the number of EGMs and gaming tables, including substitute tables, will comply with the requirements of its licence conditions. Similarly, the mix of games will comply with approved game mixes. Changes to the CCTV layout will be implemented to ensure that the Surveillance Standard is complied with.

*Decision*

5. The Commission was satisfied that the proposed construction and design changes would not adversely impact upon any of the matters set out in condition 7. The construction and design changes proposed are approved by the Executive Director under delegated authority pursuant to conditions 6 and 7 of SCAL's venue licence. The construction and design changes are to be generally in accordance with the application.
6. The floor plan proposals raise no issues of regulatory concern for the Commission. Accordingly plans 2019 L2 002 Phase 1, 2019 L2 002 Phase 2, and 2019 L2 002 Final (**attached**), are approved by the Chief Gambling Commissioner and the Executive Director under delegated authority pursuant to condition 11 SCML's operator's licence for the Auckland casino.
7. Once SCAL is reliant on plan 2019 L2 002 Phase 1, plan 2019 L2 001 will cease to be valid.

- 8. Once SCAL is reliant on plan 2019 L2 002 Phase 1, plan 2019 L2 001 will cease to be valid.
- 9. Once SCAL is reliant on plan 2019 L2 002 Phase 2, plan 2018 L2 002 Phase 1 will cease to be valid.
- 10. Once SCAL is reliant on plan 2019 L2 002 Final, plan 2018 L2 002 Phase 2 will cease to be valid.



---

**Graeme Reeves**  
Chief Gambling Commissioner  
Gambling Commission



---

**Blair Cairncross**  
Executive Director  
Gambling Commission

21

February 2019







